

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 IO-13 SSO-00 CU-02 SAJ-01

NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03

ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00

OIC-02 H-02 NSC-05 /078 W

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O R 301646Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1422

INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

CINC EUR VAIHINGEN IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASHDC

CINC USAREUR HEIDELBERG

CINC USAFE RAMSTEIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USNMR SHAPE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSE HELSINKI

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 14449

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, CSCE, GW
SUBJECT: CSCE/CBM'S: SOVIETS AND HUNGARIANS DECLINE
FRG INVITATION

REF: BONN 14392 DTG 301115Z AUG 76

1. A FOREIGN OFFICE CBM OFFICIAL HAS JUST ADVISED US THAT THE SOVIET UNION AND HUNGARY HAVE DECLINED THE FRG'S INVITATION TO SEND OBSERVERS TO VIEW THE EXERCISE GROSSER BAER.
2. THE SOVIET REFUSAL WAS IN THE FORM OF A NOTE VERBALE IN WHICH THE SOVIETS ACKNOWLEDGED THE INVITATION BUT INDICATED THEY COULD NOT ACCEPT IT BECAUSE THERE WAS NO MILITARY ATTACHE AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN BONN.
3. THE HUNGARIAN REFUSAL WAS COUCHED IN THE SAME TERMS, EXCEPT THAT IT WAS DELIVERED ORALLY BY A HUNGARIAN REPRESENTATIVE WHO TRAVELED FROM COLOGNE TO BONN TO MAKE THE PRESENTATION.
4. THE OFFICIAL SAID HE PLANNED TO PROPOSE A PRESS STATEMENT IN WHICH THE FRG WOULD TAKE THE LINE THAT IT HOPED AN EXCHANGE OF MILITARY ATTACHES WITH CERTAIN EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WOULD SOON TAKE PLACE. HOWEVER, THE OFFICIAL INDICATED HE WAS NOT WELL INFORMED ON THE STATUS OF THE VARIOUS EXCHANGES AND THAT ANY SUCH STATEMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE COORDINATED WITH OTHER SECTIONS OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE AS WELL AS THE DEFENSE MINISTRY.
5. COMMENT: THE SOVIET POSITION ON VIEWING NATO MILITARY EXERCISES WITHIN THE CSCE CONTEXT IS STILL NEGATIVE, BUT AT LEAST THIS YEAR THE SOVIETS HAD THE

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COURTESY TO RESPOND TO THE FRG'S INVITATION RATHER THAN IGNORE IT COMPLETELY. IF LACK OF A SOVIET MILITARY ATTACHE IN BONN IS THE REAL REASON FOR THE REFUSAL, IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT A SOVIET OBSERVER MAY BE PRESENT FOR AUTUMN FORGE 1977 SHOULD THE FRG AND USSR BE ABLE FINALLY TO COMPLETE THE LONG-DELAYED EXCHANGE OF MILITARY ATTACHES.
HILLENBRAND

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